

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN REVIEW OF
CONCENTATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION

Introduction

On May 3, 2006, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) received a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit application for a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) from Walnut Grove Dairy, LLC in St. Joseph County. The application was submitted to comply with both the NPDES CAFO Permit Rule and the Indiana Confined Feeding Control Law. Notice is hereby given that IDEM is opening a comment period on the draft individual permit and application.

Application Details

The Walnut Grove Dairy facility will consist of two confinement barns confining a total of 3,034 cows and a dry cow barn confining 466 cows. Each confinement barn will have concrete floors. Manure /process wastewater from the confinement barns will be vacuumed up and delivered to a liquid collection and storage system. The manure/process wastewater from the operation will be directed to either a the concrete manure/ process wastewater settling mixing pit, a manure/process wastewater separator pit, a manure treatment separator building, a solid manure storage area, a solid manure storage dewatering concrete pad and finally to a three-staged compacted clay liner earthen manure/process wastewater storage lagoon. All milking parlor wastewaters will be directed to the manure/process wastewater storage lagoon. The raw materials and feed storage area is designed to collect silage leachate and the storm water up to the 25-year, 24-hour rain event in a concrete pit and overflow into the compacted clay lined storage pond. All manure and process wastewaters will be land applied by the permittee, a contractor under the control of the permittee, or distributed to other persons for land application or converting to compost. The milk chilling process utilizes groundwater and a non-contact cooling device. The non-contact cooling water will be collected for recycling as drinking water or to mist the cows for cooling purposes. Excess non-contact cooling water will be conveyed to an existing field drainage tile. The facility must be constructed and operated in accordance with the Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation Rule's (327 IAC 5-4-3 and 327 IAC 15-15) and Indiana's Confined Feeding Operation Rule (327 IAC 16).

Public Review and Comment

The draft permit and application materials are available for review in the St. Joseph County Public Library- Lakeville Branch, 601 North Michigan, P.O. Box 427, Lakeville Indiana 46536, (574)-784-3446 and IDEM's public file room on the 12th floor of the Indiana Government Center-North, 100 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis Indiana 46204, during normal working hours. The draft permit is also available on IDEM's agency's web page at: <http://www.in.gov/idem/land/permits/notices/index.html>.

Comments should be technical comments, which addresses compliance with 327 IAC 5-4-3, 327 IAC 15-15, and 327 IAC 16, which can be viewed at:

<http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03270/A00160.PDF> Citizens should be reminded that some issues (odor, potential devalued property, and traffic concerns) are not within IDEM's jurisdiction. Rather, they are local zoning issues. Persons presenting comments are requested to submit one written copy of the comment and submit it to IDEM within 30 days after the publication of this notice to:

Daniel J Bruggen
Office of Land Quality
100 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2241

Concerns will be summarized and a document will be drafted in which a response will be given for each concern. A copy of the responsiveness summary will be mailed to each person who submits written comment if a complete, legible address is provided to IDEM with the comment.

Further Information

For further information please call Daniel Bruggen (317)-233-3554, Dennis Lasiter (317)-232-8732 or Jerome Rud (317)-232-7200.

bcc: Bruce Palin- Assistant Commissioner, Office of Land Quality
Charles Grady- Chief, Agricultural and Solid Waste Compliance (Shadeland Office)
Steve Schafer- IDEM Agricultural and Solid Waste Compliance (NW Region Office)
Daniel Bruggen- IDEM Solid Waste Permits Section
Amy Hartsock- MACS
Kristin Wiley- MACS
Karen Purtell- Office of Land Quality (Transmit Electronically)